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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

NAKAYA, et al.

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I. Sherali

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

December 27, 2006

Sir:

Further to the Amendment filed on November 30, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Claims

Remarks are included following the amendments